

Issue NE-CW1905, released May 9, 2005, by the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA . For more information contact us at: 100 Centennial Mall North, Suite 298, Lincoln, NE 68508, 402-437-5541 or e-mail at [nass-ne@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nass-ne@nass.usda.gov), Internet at <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>.

**Agricultural Summary:** For the week ending May 8, 2005, spring planting progressed throughout the state with excellent conditions for fieldwork, according to USDA’s Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Cold temperatures hit the state early in the week but were not enough to keep soil temperatures below the 50 degree threshold for corn germination. Temperatures in the teens damaged emerged sugarbeet fields in the Panhandle with reports of many producers needing to re-plant. Impact of the low temperatures on the winter wheat crop was undetermined.

**Weather Summary:** Temperatures for the week averaged between 5 degrees below and 1 degree above normal with the state averaging 2 degrees below normal. Rainfall was sporadic with most portions of the state remaining dry. Precipitation since April 1 is above normal in most areas except for the Central, South Central, and Southwest Districts.

Soil Moisture and Days Suitable:  
Nebraska, Week Ending May 8, 2005

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
Percent				
<b>Topsoil</b>				
Very Short	3	1	16	10
Short	17	7	40	23
Adequate	78	86	43	60
Surplus	2	6	1	7
<b>Subsoil</b>				
Very Short	14	10	38	22
Short	25	27	40	34
Adequate	60	61	22	43
Surplus	1	2	0	1
<b>Days Suitable</b>	6.2	4.2	6.4	4.4

**Field Crops Report:** Wheat conditions rated 1 percent very poor, 4 poor, 34 fair, 48 good, and 13 excellent. Fields were 75 percent jointed, behind last year at 78 percent but ahead of the average at 59.

Corn planting jumped to 74 percent complete, behind last year at 80 but ahead of average at 65. Corn emergence was at 10 percent, behind last year at 26 percent and average of 19.

Soybean planting had progressed to 15 percent, behind last year at 22 but near the average of 16.

Oats planted increased to 99 percent, in line with last year and ahead of the average at 95. Eighty-nine percent had emerged, ahead of last year at 80 and the average at 79.

Sugarbeet planting advanced in the west with 90 percent completed, behind last year at 97.

Alfalfa conditions continued to decline due to the impact of the freezing temperatures and rated 7 percent very poor, 12 poor, 37 fair, 37 good, and 7 excellent.

Crop Progress : Nebraska, Week Ending May 8, 2005

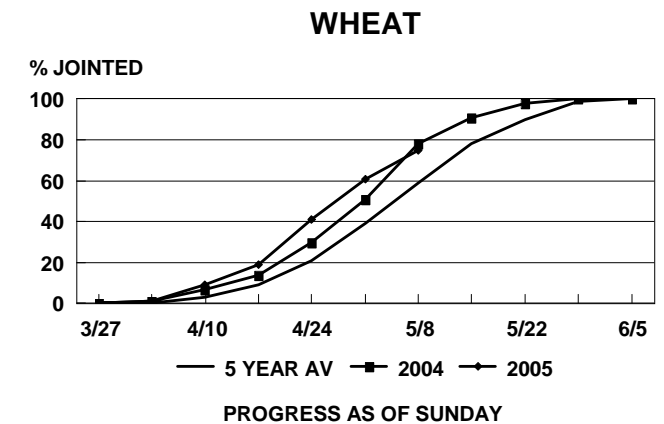
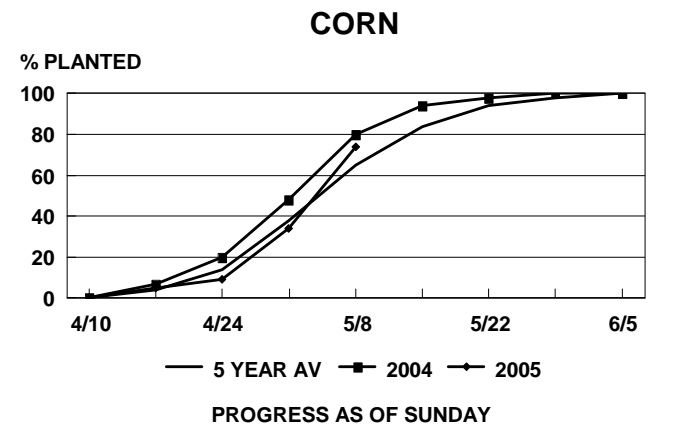
Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
Percent				
Corn Planted	74	34	80	65
Corn Emerged	10	3	26	19
Oats Planted	99	94	99	95
Oats Emerged	89	70	80	79
Sorghum Planted	6	0	6	4
Soybeans Planted	15	4	22	16
Wheat Jointed	75	61	78	59

Crop Condition: Nebraska, Week Ending May 8, 2005

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					
Alfalfa	7	12	37	37	7
Oats	0	6	30	57	7
Wheat	1	4	34	48	13

**Livestock, Pasture and Range Report:** Pasture and range condition rated 3 percent very poor, 12 poor, 35 fair, 45 good, and 5 excellent. Cattle and calf condition rated 1 percent poor, 10 fair, 64 good, and 25 excellent. Spring calving was 96 percent complete with calf losses continuing to rate average to below average.

*This release is based on data from FSA county directors, county extension educators, NOAA, and the High Plains Climate Center. County comments and reports can be found at: [http://www.nass.usda.gov/ne/cropwthr/cmts\\_cur.htm](http://www.nass.usda.gov/ne/cropwthr/cmts_cur.htm). For those receiving an e-mail text version of this publication, a complete version including crop progress charts and precipitation maps can be found at: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/ne/cropwthr/2005.htm>.*



Item	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.19	.26	.09	.12	.01	.13	.03	.01
Total since April 1	2.95	4.46	4.34	2.18	3.74	1.62	1.54	4.20
Normal since April 1	2.52	2.91	3.47	3.30	3.71	2.70	2.98	3.78
Total as % of normal	117%	155%	125%	66%	100%	60%	52%	111%

Station		Temperature			
		Extremes		Average	Departure
		High	Low		
NW	Alliance	80	14	49	-4
	Scottsbluff	79	18	51	-2
	Sidney	79	16	49	-5
NC	Ainsworth	76	24	54	-3
	Arthur	78	19	52	-4
	O'Neill	78	25	55	-2
NE	Concord	81	25	56	-3
	Elgin	82	30	56	-2
	West Point	82	30	57	-2
C	Grand Island	82	25	58	0
	Lexington	81	24	56	-1
	Ord	78	22	56	-2
EC	Lincoln	83	35	61	+1
	Central City	83	24	58	0
	Mead	85	31	59	0
SW	Champion	83	20	53	-3
	North Platte	81	19	53	-4
	Curtis	80	21	53	-4
SC	Smithfield	81	24	55	-2
	Minden	83	26	56	-1
	Red Cloud	81	24	56	-1
SE	Beatrice	83	29	58	-2
	Clay Center	82	26	57	0
	Nemaha	83	33	60	0

Source: High Plains Regional Climate Center and Nebraska State Climate Office

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